



# Acquisition Innovation Fact Sheet

Today, OMB published the [Acquisition Innovation & Small Business Participation in Federal Procurement report](#). This report highlights how under the Biden-Harris Administration, acquisition innovation has been a catalyst to advance national priorities and improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process.

Since 2016, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) has been working with Federal agencies to create a more innovation-friendly acquisition environment that empowers, enables, and encourages members of the acquisition workforce to improve ways of conducting procurements. With the help of acquisition innovation advocates across Government and a growing number of labs, coaches, and workforce development tools, agencies are using more than 30 different innovative techniques that keep pace with growing challenges. These techniques are described on the Chief Acquisition Officers Council's Government-wide knowledge management portal for acquisition innovation, known as the [Periodic Table of Acquisition Innovations](#).

Many innovative buying strategies described in the report are designed to reduce bid and proposal costs, making opportunities for doing business in the Federal marketplace more accessible and affordable – both for new and recent entrants as well as small businesses who are longstanding participants in agency supply chains. While most innovative techniques described in the report originated from agency ideas, the vendor community also played an important role in helping to shape these strategies.

These strategies have helped agencies across Government use the Federal procurement system to enable better delivery of critical mission services, while promoting greater small business participation. Examples include:

- **Enhanced benefits access for Veterans and dependents** by modernizing the [VA.gov](#) platform using multiple streamlined acquisition processes, such as live demonstrations and award to highest technically rated offer with the most reasonable price.
- **Streamlining of Medicare's payment system** by rolling out new online claims processing tools using agile development and acquisition methodologies.
- **Improved delivery of [online social security services](#)** with a focus on the customer's experience.
- **Facilitating the IRS's Direct File pilot that allows many Americans to file taxes for free** with software developed in partnership with selected small

businesses using simplified acquisition procedures.

- **Support for farmers and ranchers with one-stop access to business tools** through the release of the latest version of the Department of Agriculture's [Farmers.gov](http://Farmers.gov) website, which provides services to farmers, ranchers, and foresters, through use of small business friendly strategies (advisory two-phase down select & oral presentations) as part of a small business set-aside.
- **Protection of public health and safety with respect to radioactive materials** through research and development to advance nuclear safety protocols developed by a contractor selected using innovative practices that helped the Nuclear Regulatory Commission meet its mission within budgetary constraints.
- **Advancing awareness for National Park Service visitors** by creating new exhibits that share the rich story of the Natchitoches people across eras, from slavery to civil rights, developed with the assistance of a small business.

Key steps to accelerate the scale of innovative acquisition practices include:

- Increasing emphasis on knowledge management, where agencies can access and utilize acquisition data at the time of need.
- Reaching out to agency supplier bases to increase their understanding of innovative practices agencies may use to lower barriers to entry.
- Providing for modern tools to help the acquisition workforce of the future to keep up with a continuously evolving procurement environment and increasingly complex customer demands.